

B. Amendment to the Claims

Please cancel claim 20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 19 as follows. A listing of all claims is provided.

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) An optical element having a film on its surface, said film comprising at least one layer of silica doped with fluorine and a layer of a material selected from the group consisting of MgF_2 , LiF , and Na_3AlF_6 , wherein a refractive index of the layer or layers of silica for F_2 laser light is 1.60 to 1.80.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The optical element according to claim 19, wherein said element is comprised of fluorite.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) The optical element according to claim 19, wherein said film is an antireflection coating.

24-25. (Cancelled)